

John L. Brownlee United States Attorney

Heidi Coy Public Affairs Specialist

April 19, 2006

## NEWS RELEASE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

BB&T Building 310 First Street, S.W., Room 906 Roanoke, Virginia 24011-1935 Phone: (540) 857-2974

FAX: (540) 857-2179

## HARRISONBURG MAN INDICTED FOR METHAMPHETAMINE DISTRIBUTION

United States Attorney John L. Brownlee announced today that Ivan Guillen-Castellanos, 22, of Harrisonburg, Virginia, formerly of Salvador, was indicted by a federal grand jury in Charlottesville, Va.

Guillen-Castellanos was charged in a four count indictment with distribution of methamphetamine, possession of a firearm during a drug trafficking crime, and possession of 50 grams or more of methamphetamine. These charges arose out of an investigation begun when the R.U.S.H. Drug Task Force and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), began an investigation of a group of various individuals that distribute methamphetamine.

In February 2006, an informant made a controlled purchase of methamphetamine from Ivan Guillen-Castellanos. On February 15, 2006, agents executed a search warrant at Guillen-Castellanos' home in Harrisonburg. Agents seized 256 grams of methamphetamine, two handguns, and over \$1,000.

If convicted on all counts, the maximum penalty faced by the defendant is 105 years imprisonment and/or a fine of \$5,250,000.

The investigation of the case was conducted by the R.U.S.H. Drug Task Force and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, and Explosives. Assistant United States Attorney Rusty Fitzgerald will prosecute the case.

A Grand Jury indictment is only a charge and not evidence of guilt. The defendant is entitled to a fair trial with the burden on the government to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.